

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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R 131022Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0048
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 4062

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: GW, RO
SUBJECT: WILLY BRANDT VISITS ROMANIA

1. ROMANIAN MEDIA COVERAGE OF BRANDT VISIT JUNE 8-9 WAS
ROUTINE AND SUBSTANTIVE REPORTING OF TOPICS COVERED IN HIS
TALKS WITH CEAUSESCU UNIFORMLY BLAND. USUAL FORMULATIONS
WERE EXPOUNDED ON DETENTE, CSCE, DISARMAMENT, RESOLUTION
OF CONFLICTS BY PEACEFUL MEANS, AFRICA, CLOSING THE ECONOMIC
GAP BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND ROMANIA-
FRG BILATERAL RELATIONS ("POSITIVE TREND"). IN BRIEF PRESS
CONFERENCE, BRANDT STATED THAT ON MANY SUBJECTS HIS OPINIONS
AND THOSE OF PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU ARE IDENTICAL OR VERY CLOSE.
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2. IN BRIEFING NATO COLLEAGUES JUNE 12, FRG AMBASSADOR SAID
THAT BRANDT VISITED ROMANIA IN THREE CAPACITIES: AS PRESI-
DENT OF FRG SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, AS AN OFFICER OF SECOND
SOCIALIST INTERNATIONALE, AND AS CHAIRMAN OF BRANDT COMMIS-
SION FORMED AT INSTIGATION F IBRD PRESIDENT MACNAMARA TO PRE-
PARE A REPORT AND ADVISE THE BANK ON NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE.

FOR BRANDT, LAST-NAMED CAPACITY WAS THE MAIN REASON FOR TRIP TO BUCHAREST. HE WISHED TO DRAW EASTERN EUROPE MORE DEEPLY INTO THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE AND TO MEVE THEIR INVOLVEMENT FROM LIP SERVICE TO CONCRETE CONTRIBUTIONS. FOLLOWING HIS EARLIER DISCUSSIONS WITH BREZHNEV IN MOSCOW, SOVIET UNION HAD ESTABLISHED A SPECIAL COMMISSION; AND DURING HIS VISIT TO SOFIA PRIOR TO COMING TO ROMANIA, THE BULGARIANS HAD AGREED TO PROVIDE A SPECIAL AGRICULTURAL EXPERT TO ASSIST THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. ON THIS QUESTION ROMANIANS AGREED TO FURTHER DISCUSSIONS IN GENEVA WHERE BRANDT COMMISSION SECRETARIAT IS LOCATED.

3. DURING VISIT BRANDT TALKED WITH CEAUSESCU FOR A TOTAL OF ABOUT 8 HOURS, INCLUDING A LUNCH, DINNER AND TWO SEPARATE FORMAL TALKS. CEAUSESCU BRIEFED HIM ON ASIAN TRIP BUT ACCORDING TO BRANDT NO CONCRETE INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED. CEAUSESCU'S ESTIMATE OF EUROPE AFTER BELGRADE WAS THE NOW WELL-KNOWN ROMANIAN PESSIMISTIC VIEW WITH WHICH BRANDT TOOK ISSUE. BRANDT CONTRASTED CEAUSESCU'S VIEW TIH THAT FO ZHIVKOV IN BULGARIA WHO THOUGHT THAT FACT BELGRADE TOOK PLACE COULD BE CONSIDERED A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT.

4. ON FRG/ROMANIAN BILATERAL RELATIONS, CEAUSESCU FELT THAT WEST GERMANY COULD AND SHOULD PROVIDE MORE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. BRANDT'S REPLY WAS THAT HE HAD ALWAYS HAD DIFFICULTY IN DEALING WITH ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

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